The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir :—"I may say that so far as I am aware the question of the official year does not interfere with the construction of buildings or other works."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"That is looking with complacency at the fact that in February and March building work is done hurriedly."

The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir :—"Does the hon. Member suggest that the building construction is confined to a part of the official year ?"

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar :—"I believe there was some correspondence between the Government of India and the Local Governments on this subject and that the Local Governments were asked for their opinion."

The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir :—"If my memory serves me, it was over two years ago that the Government of India, with whom the final decision rests, decided that the existing system should be adhered to."

Economic condition.

Purchase of produce from the Agency people in Gudem taluk.

* 114 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any notices were issued by the authorities that traders from the plains shall not purchase produce from the Agency people in the Gudem taluk except in weekly shandies ; and

(*b*) if so, what is the authority for issuing such notices ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information.

Rao Bahadur C. V. S Narasimha Raju :—"Will the Government be pleased to call for the information ?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—"A report was called for at the time, but I am sorry this was not mentioned in the answer. As soon as the facts have been ascertained, they will be communicated to the hon. Member, or if he prefers it, he may put down a fresh question."

Land Revenue.

Levy on demarcation of lands for assignment.

* 115 *Q.*—Mr. K. Raghuchandra Ballal : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether of late a fee of Rs. 2 is being levied from each applicant for assignment of Government waste land before measuring and demarcating it by the village officers ;

(*b*) whether such levy is in accordance with the Madras Revenue Recovery Act or any other statutory provision ;

(*c*) whether such levy has been sanctioned by the Government ;

(*d*) if so, whether such sanction has been recommended by this Council ;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that a part of such fees is being paid to the village karnam as remuneration ;

(*f*) whether it is not an unnecessary hardship to collect such fees from all applicants indiscriminately ; and